

Hamsplatter

July 1998

Volume 27 Issue 7



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President's Corner

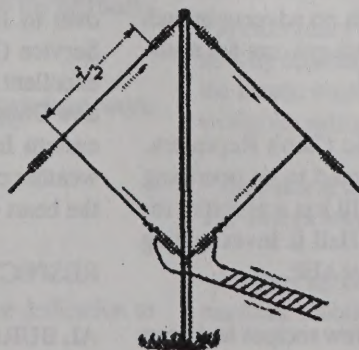
Field Day! - Field Day 1998 was held at Peyton Park operating in class 2A. Two HF stations were operated along with one VHF/UHF station. In spite of the low turn out, 467 contacts were made with 171 being CW. The site was set up in 3 operating tents with 2 towers. One tower held both a 2 meter and 70 centimeter beam (on separate rotors) and an HF antenna. RF interference was minimal. However, the heat and bloodthirsty mosquitoes were the greatest interference. The 40 meter band was booming throughout the event and 20 meters came in a close second. There were 47 contracts made on 2 meter SSB. My thanks goes out to all those who either participated at the site or provided support to the site. It was a fun time and a great success.

Next Club Meeting - Friday,
July 17

Program will be a presentation by Tim of A Plus Computers. Tim will bring us up to speed on the latest in PC hardware advancements and options. A question and answer period will be provided so that Tim can address your particular interests. So bring your questions and a note pad to the meeting. See you there!

73s

Bill
Stockslager
(N9WS)



INARRL BULLETIN 53-98

SUBJECT: FIELD DAY RESULTS

June 30, 1998

Field Day 1998 has come and gone. How did your club or group do in this event? Do you have any comments and stories to tell about what was exciting or incidents to relate with the rest us amateurs?

The Whitley County Amateur Radio Club (WCARC) ran a 2A station, a novice station was also set up along with 2 meter all mode and a VHF packet station. We did not set any records on the last two modes.

The biggest surprise for me was using my generator for the first time in Field Day and finding that it ran 15 hours straight on approximately 5

gallons of fuel.

The most alarming moment for me was when Dave/WB9UNL gave out a yelp and we looked over and he had a lamp and cord in hand and was laying on the floor tangled up in a chair! I just knew that he had received a severe shock and could not let go of the lamp. KA9QWC was on the way to disconnect the power when it was discovered Dave had fell off the chair in the process of hanging up a light for evening operation. That certainly was a relief to find out he was not hurt. Dave will probably use a ladder next time instead of standing on a chair!

I have heard from another amateur radio operator down toward the Bloomington area who stated

Continued on page 3

June Minutes

1. The June meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 19 June, 1998. There were about 40 persons present and the meeting was hosted by Vice President Scott Price.

2. As the May meeting was the Spring Banquet with no business meeting (other than the business of eating really good food, you missed it if you were not at the Banquet), there were no May minutes.

3. Treasurer Bob Streeter reported that the Club had a cash balance of \$117.88, and a checking account balance of \$4,150.00. Total Club assets (including estimated value of the Club's equipment) is \$11,124.87.

4. Jim Pliett reported on the condition of Club member Cliff Shreve. Cliff has been in the hospital with serious medical problems originating from diabetes. Jim passed around a Get Well card for all members present to sign. Jim also voiced the recommendation of the Board of Directors that Cliff be honored with a Lifetime Club membership based upon his tireless service to the Club. This recommendation was put forth as a motion, seconded and voted in the affirmative by the members present.

5. Carl Rittenhouse gave a brief report on Foxhunt activities. In June, the Fox was run-down at the end of a road on the northern edge of Allen County by a rabid pack of Foxhunters led by winners Jim and Annie Pliett. Hot on their trail were KA8WAO and partner Al, followed by KB9's DOT and DOS, and others of the hunting breed. Carl noted that the next Foxhunt would commence from Shoaff Park on the first Monday in July starting at 6:30 pm.

6. Carl also reported that as a result of the efforts of Lynn Pequignot, WA9PIV, two more finals for the ATV transmitter had been obtained with no adverse impact upon the Club Treasury. (I.E., Lynn got 'em for nothing)!

7. Scott Price noted that all of the Club's Repeaters, with the exception of 146.91 seemed to be operating normally. The 146.91 machine still has a problem relating to Autopatch access. Bill Hall is investigating the problem through his contacts at AEP.

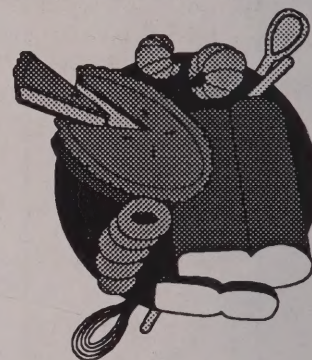
8. Carole Burke reported that too few recipes had been

received to date to make the Ham Cookbook viable. About 100 additional recipes are needed to make this project go. (The Ham Cookbook will be a collection of favorite recipes donated by Club members that will be published in a Cookbook and sold to provide some good culinary ideas for everyone, and to generate some much needed income for the Club)! So Carole and Becky Stockslager are asking for ALL members to send in a favorite recipe to either Becky or Carole so that the Cookbook project can proceed. (OM's, just pass the word to your XYL and she'll do the work). Mail your recipes to:

Becky Stockslager
4801 Honey Oak Run
Ft. Wayne, Ind. 46845

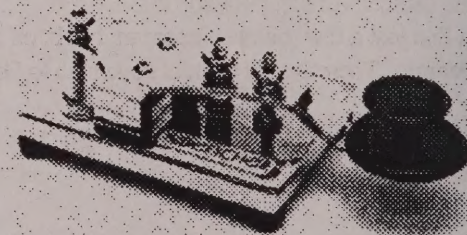
or to

Carole Burke
11714 Millstone Dr.
Ft. Wayne, Ind. 46818



or send them electronically to Becky at e-mail "westock@concentric.net" or to Carole at e-mail "71621.3335@compuserve.com".

9. Scott Price announced that contrary to popular belief, Club member Clint Stedge, KB9LOF has an interest other than his interest in FOOD. And that interest is Ham Radio. Clint has just recently passed his 13WPM Code test so he is well on his way to a new license. Congratulations Clint!



10. Following the regular meeting, Scott turned the floor over to June Hollingsworth of the National Weather Service (NWS) who provided the assembled with an excellent briefing on the operation of the NWS and it's new Doppler Radar in tracking severe weather in North-eastern Indiana. June also provided a discussion of weather characteristics and observations that are the at the heart of the Skywarn program.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

AL BURKE, WB9SSE

**Get
Well
Soon !**

INARRL BULLETIN 53-98 - Cont. from pg.1

their group worked 49 states and only missed getting all of the Sections by 3.

It would be nice to hear from other Hoosiers about the big weekend event and some hi-lites of Field Day

You can send information to me by several ways.

email: don39@whitleynet.org

packet: KA9QWC@KF9UG.#NIN.IN.USA.NOAM

Tel: 219-723-4793, answering machine is on if I'm out...

HF radio: I am usually on our Indiana Traffic Net (ITN) on a daily basis in the mornings. 3.910 MHZ 08:30 local time, also sometimes on the 1630 & 1800 sessions. I frequently get on both Indiana QIN CW nets on 3.656 at 09:30 AM, 7 PM and the Indiana Code Net (ICN) on 3.705 MHZ.

mail: Don Evilsizer
965 South 700 West
Larwill, IN 46764-9762

INARRL BULLETIN 54-98

Subject: The K9TSM BBS is on line..

Date: 21 Jun 98 08:08:00 GMT

From: N9LCF@N9LCF.#NEIN.IN.USA.NOAM

The Goshen Amateur Radio Club BBS officially went on line just a few minutes before midnight on Saturday evening... There is now a direct node path to Goshen....

The folks in the Goshen, Elkhart, and South Bend areas will have a new mode of amateur radio to enjoy again...

It will also expand our links onto 145.070, 145.010, 145.510, and 51.800 6meters in addition to the 220 backbone....

We congratulate the Goshen Club for their hard work getting on line...

73 de Gene, N9LCF @
N9LCF.#NEIN.IN.USA.NOAM

Thanks for the information Gene and your dedication to packet.

INARRL BULLETIN 55-98

SUBJECT: FIELD DAY ACTIVITY THOMSON ARC

July 3, 1998

The Thomson ARC operated in 1A using battery power. It was casual operation to be sure everyone a chance to get on the air. We operated HF on CW, SSB and RTTY with a total of 1003 QSOs. We had planned to be on 6 & 2 meters SSB, but with no bonus points and being so hot, we never set it up. We operated from the southwest side of Indianapolis.

We found RTTY a great replacement for packet. The last 5 years it has been hard to make one packet contact during FD.

Jim/K9RU

Thanks Jim/K9RU for your bulletin input.

A LIGHTER LOOK AT FIELD DAY
— SOME TIPS

from *The ARRL Letter Online*

- You can compress the diameter of your rolled up sleeping bag by running over it with your car. This technique may also be used to make a folded dipole.

- A potato baked in the coals for one hour makes an excellent side dish. A potato baked in the coals for three hours makes an excellent counter-weight for hurling a leader line over a tree limb.

- You can start a fire without matches by eating Mexican food, then breathing on a pile of dry sticks while keying your H-T.

- In emergency situations, you can survive in the wilderness by shooting small game with a slingshot made from the elastic waistband of your underwear. This trick also works for stringing wire antennas.

- The guitar at the next campsite makes excellent kindling. The strings may be used for a VHF/UHF antenna.

- A large carp can be used for a pillow or as a ground for maritime mobile stations.



Continued on page 4

A LIGHTER LOOK AT FIELD DAY - Cont. from pg.3

- Check the washing instructions before purchasing any apparel to be worn on Field Day. Buy only those that read "Beat on a rock in stream" or "Can be dried by HF RF."

- Effective January 1, 1998, you will actually have to enlist in the Swiss Army to get a Swiss Army knife. Contacts with HB stations do not count for bonus points, however.

- Bear bells provide an element of safety for Field Day operators in grizzly country. The tricky part is getting them on the bears.

—Modified for radio amateurs by Pete Kemp, KZ1Z, from the September 1996 issue of Backpacker magazine

RENEWING ELECTRONICALLY VIA THE INTERNET: - from The ARRL

The FCC now accepts renewals electronically via their WorldWideWeb site. You may file for electronic renewal

If you file your renewal electronically, the FCC may take only a day or two to renew your license.

at 120 days or less before your license will expire. Note: You cannot renew electronically after your license has expired, however you can still mail a Form 610 to the FCC for renewals during the two year grace period afforded to expired licenses. The FCC's URL for electronic renewals is: <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/electcom.html>.

While FCC fee-payment Form-159 instructions will appear during the process, for Amateur Service license renewals no fee is required. You must provide a taxpayer ID (Social Security Number) when filing using this online system. Be sure to print a copy of your online renewal request for your records.

Processing time can vary depending on the FCC's workload. If you file your renewal electronically the FCC may take only a day or two to renew your license. If you file by hardcopy, the FCC might take several weeks to process your renewal. If you have not received your renewed license within 12 weeks, you may contact the FCC for guidance on how to proceed. The FCC may be reached by telephone 1-888-225-5322 or by fax to 717-338-2696, or by writing to: FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245.

If your FCC license will expire in the next few days or weeks, you may continue to operate your amateur station IF you send the FCC (and the FCC receives before your license expiration date) your electronic renewal request—or a completed hardcopy FCC Form 610 requesting that your license be renewed. Be sure to keep a copy of your renewal request for your records.

Cellular Phones and Blood Pressure

In a study done in Freiburg, Germany, volunteers exposed to RF fields from cell phones experienced a rise in blood pressure. The volunteers had cell phones strapped to their heads and didn't know when the transmitters were switched on. (No mention was made of the output power of the phones however.) Although some researchers have linked cell phones to a variety of health problems ranging from fatigue, headaches, and burning skin to brain tumors, there is still no proof that the devices pose any serious health risks.

The "Hindenburg" Battery

Scientists at the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE in Freiburg, Germany are developing a miniature hydrogen-powered fuel cell battery for notebook computers. The new battery is based on a banded structure membrane fuel cell which provides a flat, compact design. The hydrogen supply is supplied from a metal hydride storage unit which can be recharged at home with a miniature electrolyser or simply replaced like a battery. They claim a fully charged battery has a very long shelf life. Other applications include cell phones, appliances, tools, camcorders, (and of course HTs - ed.).

Regional Hamfests

7/11	Central Division Convention, Indianapolis, IN
7/12	Kankakee Area Radio Society, Peotone, IL
7/19	Van Wert ARC, Van Wert, OH
7/25	OH-KY-IN ARS, Cincinnati, OH
8/1	Kentucky Colonels ARC, Bowling Green, KY
8/1	Voice of Aladdin ARC, Columbus, OH
8/2	Hamfesters Radio Club, Peotone, IL
8/2	Land of Lakes ARC, Angola, IN
8/2	Portage ARC, Randolph, OH
8/8	Western Illinois ARC, Quincy, IL
8/9	Bluegrass ARS, Frankfort, KY
8/16	Tippecanoe ARA, Lafayette, IN
8/30	Tri-County Radio Group, Woodstock, IL
8/30	Vermilion County ARA, Danville, IL

For Sale:

About 170 ft. of 7/8"

50 Ω copper heliax

\$80.00

Call Vic — WB9UZA

219-485-7472

Storm Spotter Activities



Stormspotters in northeastern Indiana and northwest Ohio were busy during the months of May and June as Mother Nature's fury shifted from the southeastern United States into our part of the country.

We were activated on May 3 and May 20 as severe thunderstorms moved through the area. On those two occasions,

most of the severe weather occurred outside Allen County; however, we had something other than hail and high winds to contend with: extremely heavy rainfall (as much as 4" in some places) caused problems in the southern part of the City of Fort Wayne, as well as the southeastern part of Allen County. There was also another quirk: on May 3 the storms were moving from east to west Oust to add a little more confusion to the picture!).

Thursday evening June 11 spotters were again activated in northeastern Indiana. That night, we escaped the worst weather. Tornadoes touched down near Nappanee (as luck would have it a trailer court) and also just to the north and east of Indianapolis, resulting in damage and injuries. Little did we know that it was going to be our turn the very next day.

Friday June 12: at mid-afternoon, a series of tornado watches were issued which covered an area from St Louis to Chicago ... Detroit ... Cleveland... Louisville ... and back to St Louis. Around 3 pm, thunderstorms formed in northern Indiana and intensified rapidly. Hail 3 to 4 inches in diameter was reported to the northwest of Allen County. When the storms moved into Allen County, we already knew that things were going to get a bit rough ... and they did. Charlie WB9ULN was the first to report a rotating wall cloud just west of the city on US 30. Other wall clouds were reported over the Glenbrook area ... Lake Avenue ... and New Haven. The storms continued into Van Wert County where similar reports came in from the Scott, OH area. Hail and high winds caused some damage in Allen County (thanks Brad N9EHLK for the damage reports), but overall we were very lucky I was in the parking lot at Azar's (US 30/33) and watched the wall cloud myself, and (because of the hail and high winds reports) was very surprised a tornado did not touch down. (This in spite of the fact that the wind was blowing away from the wall cloud meaning the rear flank downdraft had overtaken it; therefore, the possibility of a touchdown was diminished).

The amateur response to this situation was tremendous!! Thanks to all who participated (even if you were just out there watching the sky). The list of stations reporting severe weather is too large to mention here, but I would like to thank everyone for their efforts. Also, a special "well done" to Bill WD9HII for his net control expertise

during the event, and Aaron KB9MDU for relaying the reports to North Webster. And if you still don't believe the media listens to us, you didn't watch Greg Shoup or read the article the Journal-Gazette ran the next morning.

DO NOT REPORT HAIL THAT IS LESS THAN THE SIZE OF A DIME UNLESS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED TO DO SO BY THE NET CONTROL STATION.

The only negative item to note is the hail reports. Please remember this: DO NOT REPORT HAIL THAT IS LESS THAN THE SIZE OF A DIME UNLESS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED TO DO SO BY THE NET CONTROL STATION.

We have received way too many reports of pea-sized hail; first of all, the Weather Service does not want that information, and second, this unnecessary traffic adds to the congestion on the net. Remember the idea is to keep the frequency open so that any reportable weather conditions can be called in and relayed to North Webster as quickly and efficiently as possible.

One of the things going on behind the scenes is that the net control and relay stations have had a couple of meetings to critique our operations as net controls and what we can do to improve same. If you as a spotter have any suggestions my e-mail address and telephone number are on the cover of every newsletter. Or feel free to talk to any of the other net controls. The net controls are the people responsible for the overall operation of the spotter network, and since they are the link between you the spotter and the National Weather Service, your comments and suggestions are important to us.

Last but not least. I have said this before, and will repeat it: when you are a spotter out in the field, BE CAREFUL. We had a couple of situations where a spotter could have gotten hurt: because of the excitement of the moment the spotter drove into a severe thunderstorm, and the most intense part of the storm turned on them without warning. If you are not sure how to safely view a storm, please get out your spotter's guide and review it, and do it now ... before the next severe weather event. Make special note of which areas of a thunderstorm are most likely to produce severe weather. Also, when you approach a thunderstorm, always have an escape route planned out in advance. Remember that your personal safety comes before anything else.

Thanks again to everyone for their efforts so far this season. Good Job!

de Joel KB9RH

SEVERE STORM REPORTING CRITERIANWS Northern Indiana

Please Report the Following Immediately to the NWS at:

1-888-668-3344

- ☐ Tornadoes
- ☐ Funnel Clouds (look for rotation: **"If it doesn't spin, don't call it in!"**)
- ☐ Wall Clouds (look for rotation and persistence (5-10 minutes). Again, **"If it doesn't spin, don't call it in!"**)
- ☐ Flooding (include reports of water flowing over roadways)
- ☐ Hail - *dime size or greater* (do no use "marble-size" to report size!)
- ☐ Wind damage - large limbs down or broken off/any structural damage

The NWS issues warnings for tornadoes, hail diameter greater than or equal to 3/4 " (dime size), winds at or in excess of 58 mph, and flooding.

Estimating Wind Speed

25-31 MPH	Large branches moving. Whistling heard in overhead wires
32-38 MPH	Whole trees moving. Inconvenience in walking against wind
39-46 MPH	Small branches (twigs) break. Impedes walking
47-54 MPH	Slight structural damage. Large branches may break
55-63 MPH	Moderate structural and tree damage
64 & higher	Heavy to severe structural and tree damage

For information about the Northern Indiana SKYWARN/Spotter programs, or to ask questions, email the NWS at:

NWS Northern Indiana SKYWARN e-mail address: **IWX.Skywarn@noaa.gov**

Homepage Address: **<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/iwx>**

IWX45 01/98

Membership Data: (Give this form to the treasurer at any FWRC meeting or mail to the address below)

Name _____ Call _____ Class: ☐ N ☐ T ☐ G ☐ A ☐ AE

Street _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Shall we list your address and phone number in the membership roster ☐ Y ☐ N?

Are you presently an ARRL member ☐ Y ☐ N?

Membership Term: ☐ (Jan - Dec) ☐ (Jul - Dec)

Family Membership: ☐ \$21.00/yr ☐ \$10.50/yr immediate family (list all callsigns)

Regular Membership: ☐ \$15.00/yr ☐ \$7.50/yr licensed member

Student Membership: ☐ \$6.00/yr ☐ \$3.00/yr full time student

Associate Membership: ☐ \$15.00/yr ☐ \$7.50/yr unlicensed member

Your Check Number _____ please pay by check. It's easier for both of us.

Mail to: The Fort Wayne Radio Club
PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice: 146.76

146.94

444.875

ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, via e-mail victor9444@aol.com. Please put "for Hamsplatter" in the Subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755. Items must reach me by first Thursday of the month.

NOTE: Deadline for the August Hamsplatter will be Aug. 1, 1998 due to personal travel.

Be sure to visit the Fort Wayne Radio Club on the Internet: <http://home1.gte.net/n9iww2/fwrc/>

Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

IMO: meets nightly at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM) on 146.88

Auburn: meets nightly at 2300 UTC (6 PM) on 147.360

21 Repeater Group: meets each Wednesday at 0200 UTC (9 PM) on 147.150

Fort Wayne 6M net: meets nightly at 0000 UTC (7 PM) on 50.58 AM

Miscellaneous Nets

Huntington ARES: Sat/Tues at 0100 UTC (8 PM) on 146.685

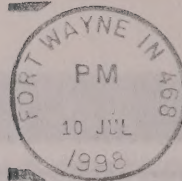
Portside: 3rd Wednesday at 0030 UTC (7:30 PM) on 444.300

Whitley Co. / ARES: Wednesdays at 00 15 UTC (7:15 PM)
on 444.55 & 146.46 (simplex)

Whitley Co. Sunday: Sundays at 0045 UTC (7:15 PM)
on 444.55 & 146.46 (simplex)

Sloppy Code Net: Sundays at 0200 UTC (9 PM) on 40M (7.1405 MHz). This CW net's purpose is to build confidence and help increase code speed. The speed is generally 1-10 WPM. If you want to copy only contact Henry, KA9ZNN at 749-8968 for details.

THE FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB
PO BOX 15127
FORT WAYNE, IN 46885



TO: JIM & ANNE PLIETT
K9OMA
16702 WAPPES RD.
CHURUBSCO, IN 46723

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